POPULATION TODAY

Vol. 18, No. 9 September 1990

FEATURES

3 How many Congressional seats will your state get?
Maybe more (or fewer) representatives than expected, depending on the "error of closure"

4 Dispatch from the Soviet Union
Census finds wide variations in growth rates within republics, while urban declines are reported in Central Asia

4 7 million enumerators conduct China's epic count
The world's largest census is expected to tally 1.12 billion people; results to come in November

5 Fertility has stopped falling in El Salvador
And contraceptive use has stopped rising in this most densely populated Central American country

6 China's population policy after Tiananmen
Contention over limiting births continues to divide hard-liners and soft-liners

8 An invitation to PRB members

9 George B. Simmons (1940-1990)

9 Louis M. Hellman (1908-1990)

12 Discover demographic Rhode Island
The nation's smallest state has industry, ocean, and 998,000 Rhode Islanders

DEPARTMENTS

2 From the editor's desk

2 Speaking graphically

5 Survey report (El Salvador)

6 Demographer's page

9 Software

9 Population update

10 Take a number

11 Current readings

12 Spotlight (Rhode Island)

Architect of the Capitol

Congress waits for demographic tremors. (See page 3.)

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Herewith, a clip-and-save list of synonyms for writers who turn numbers into words: 94 verbs, nouns, and adjectives to describe the crests and troughs of population trends.

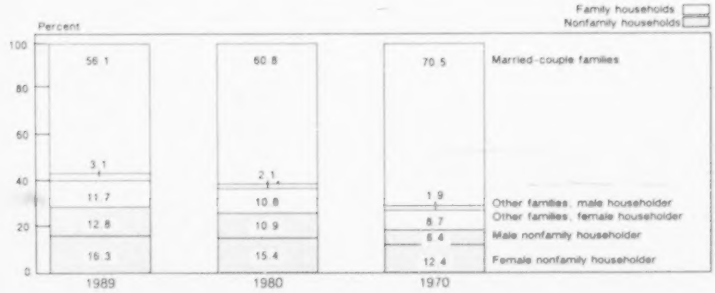
–Art Haupt

	Change	Slight change	Extreme change	Noun	Useful modifier
UP	climb curve up experience a rise gain go up grow increase mount reach rise slope upward	bump up creep up edge up nudge up progress	explode jump mushroom shoot up skyrocket snowball soar surge swell take off zoom	boost gain growth increase jump rise upswing upward trend	abrupt accelerating almost imperceptible creeping dramatic gentle gradual infinitesimal little by little measurable persistent precipitous rapid robust sharp significant slight slow steady steep substantial sudden
DOWN	brake curve down decline decrease descend drop ebb experience a decline fall go down lose shrink sink slide slope downward	abate dip ease edge down regress slip slump subside taper off	dive nosedive plummet plunge skid tumble	decline decrease dip dive downswing downward trend drop ebb fall loss negative growth reduction slide	

Source. PRB's *INTERCOM,* July/August 1982.

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

Changing U.S. Household Composition



The bar chart above shows the composition of U.S. households in 1989, 1980, and 1970. (They totaled 92.8 million in March 1989.) Married-couple families make up the majority of households, but have lost ground to nonfamily households headed by male or female householders. Of nonfamily households, depicted in gray above, an estimated 84 percent (as of 1989) consist of only one person.

Source. U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Reports,* P-20, No. 441.

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Will Surprise Counts Affect Congress?

Some surprises could be in store when Congress is reapportioned following the 1990 Census. Several states may end up with more or fewer members of the House of Representatives than had been anticipated.

Until the census results are actually released, speculation about post-1990 House seats must rely on current estimates for each state. Earlier projections by PRB, like those of other organizations, have relied on state population estimates provided by the Census Bureau.

Using the latest state estimate makes sense if the census count and the estimates are likely to be close. But they are not always close; a decade ago the final 1980 Census tally was almost 5 million higher than expected. The difference between the actual and expected census counts is referred to as the "error of closure." In 1980 the higher counts chiefly benefitted Sunbelt states, such as Texas, California, and Florida, at the expense of Northern states.

What would happen if the 1990 count contains an equal shocker? PRB demographers William P. O'Hare and Carl Haub considered what impact a large error of closure might have on 1990 apportionment projections.

In order to simulate the likely impact of an error of closure similar in magnitude to that of 1980, O'Hare and Haub calculated the error of closure for each state in 1980 and applied that factor to the most recent state projections for 1990. These adjusted state populations were then incorporated into the apportionment formula. (See *PT*, July/August 1990, for a detailed description of how apportionment is calculated.)

The new projections also take into account a recent Commerce Department policy shift to count approximately 1 million overseas military personnel and civilian federal employees and their dependents as residents of their home state of record, for purposes of census enumeration.

Originally, the Department had planned to include these overseas

Continued on page 10

Projected House of Representatives Seats after the 1990 Census

Area	Current (after 1980) House seats	House seats after 1990 apportionment, based on: Standard projection	Overseas military in home state	Error of closure adjustment	Overseas military in home state plus error of closure
Northeast	95	88	88	86 *	86 *
Maine	2	2	2	2	2
New Hampshire	2	2	2	2	2
Vermont	1	1	1	1	1
Massachusetts	11	10	10	10	10
Rhode Island	2	2	2	2	2
Connecticut	6	6	6	5 *	5 *
New York	34	31	31	30 *	30 *
New Jersey	14	13	13	13	13
Pennsylvania	23	21	21	21	21
Midwest	113	105	104 *	103 *	103 *
Ohio	21	19	19	19	19
Indiana	10	10	10	10	10
Illinois	22	20	20	20	20
Michigan	18	16	16	16	16
Wisconsin	9	9	8 *	8 *	8 *
Minnesota	8	8	8	7 *	7 *
Iowa	6	5	5	5	5
Missouri	9	9	9	9	9
North Dakota	1	1	1	1	1
South Dakota	1	1	1	1	1
Nebraska	3	3	3	3	3
Kansas	5	4	4	4	4
South	142	150	151 *	153 *	153 *
Delaware	1	1	1	1	1
Maryland	8	8	8	8	8
Virginia	10	11	11	11	11
West Virginia	4	3	3	3	3
North Carolina	11	12	12	12	12
South Carolina	6	6	6	6	6
Georgia	10	11	11	12 *	12 *
Florida	19	22	23 *	24 *	24 *
Kentucky	7	7	7	7	7
Tennessee	9	9	9	9	9
Alabama	7	7	7	7	7
Mississippi	5	5	5	5	5
Arkansas	4	4	4	4	4
Louisiana	8	8	8	8	8
Oklahoma	6	6	6	6	6
Texas	27	30	30	30	30
West	85	92	92	93 *	93 *
Montana	2	1	1	1	1
Idaho	2	2	2	2	2
Wyoming	1	1	1	1	1
Colorado	6	6	6	6	6
New Mexico	3	3	3	3	3
Arizona	5	6	6	7 *	7 *
Utah	3	3	3	3	3
Nevada	2	2	2	2	2
Washington	8	8	8	8	8
Oregon	5	5	5	5	5
California	45	52	52	52	52
Alaska	1	1	1	1	1
Hawaii	2	2	2	2	2

Note. Asterisks indicate state totals that differ from standard 1990 projections.
Source. The projections were made by Dr. William O'Hare, PRB's Director of Policy Studies.

A Report from the Soviet Union's 1989 Census

Data from the Soviet Union's 1989 Census remain scarce. The following article comes courtesy of the Novosti Press Agency. Some numbers differ from PT's March 1990 report. The author, Solomon Bruk, is doctor of geography and senior researcher at the Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

According to preliminary results of the Soviet census held on January 12, 1989, the overall population of the Soviet Union was 286.7 million.

This marks an increase of 24.3 million, or 9.3 percent, since the previous census of January 17, 1979. During 1969-1979, the respective figures were 22.9 million and 9.6 percent.

The new Soviet rates show strong fluctuations at different times during the decade and across different geographic areas. Up until 1964 the annual average increase exceeded 3 million, with a peak of 3.8 million in 1960. By 1980 the absolute increase had gradually declined to 2.1 million, after which it began to pick up again, attaining a maximum of 2.9 million in 1986. A discernible increase in the birth rate during the first half of the 1980s was linked to increased state child allowances, as well as increases in the number of women within the age bracket of maximum fertility—20-29 years—and increased fertility rates among younger women.

The census found a national birth rate of 18.8 live births per 1,000 population, as of 1988. The rate varied significantly between republics: from Tajikistan's 40.0 live births per 1,000 population down to the Ukraine's 14.5. The current birth rates in the Central Asian republics are more than twice those of the Russian republic, the Ukraine, Byelorussia, and the Baltic republics, and one-and-a-half times those in the remaining republics.

The Soviet Union as a whole increased by 0.87 percent in 1988. In the Russian republic and the Ukraine, Byelorussia, and the Baltic republics the average growth was 0.47 percent; in the four Central Asian republics, it was 2.82 percent; and in the remainder of the country, 1.5 percent. In 1989 the Central Asian republics accounted for 37.2 percent of the country's population increase.

Consequently, absolute numbers of natural increase varied remarkably. The 1988 annual increase was 779,000 in the Russian republic, whose population was 147.4 million. Uzbekistan meanwhile experienced growth almost as great, 560,000, though its population was only 19.9 million.

Between 1979 and 1989, the rural population throughout the country as a whole fell by more than 1 million, down to 98 million. In some republics, the declines were more dramatic: by 3.2 million in the Russian republic and by 2.1 million in the Ukraine. During the same 10-year period, rapid rural increases took place in Uzbekistan (a 2.8 million jump), nearly 1 million in Tadzhikistan, and half a million each in Turkmenistan and Kirgizia.

The reasons for rural decline are varied, including unsuccessful economic experiments in agriculture, the transfer of rural workers to urban areas, and continuing rural-to-urban migration.

From the 1979 Census to the present one, the Soviet urban population increased by 25.2 million: 14.5 million of this was due to natural increase, 8.9 million due to migration from the countryside, and 1.8 million due to reclassification of rural settlements.

Consequently, the urban population has increased from 62.3 percent to 65.8 percent. (Back in 1970 it measured 56.3 percent.) Differences between republics in level of urbanization are rapidly narrowing. In 10 republics out of the 15, the urban population is larger than the rural, and even in the most rural republics, a third (or close to it) of the population is urban.

At the same time, the Central Asian republics deserve a closer look. Over the past 10 years the proportion of urban dwellers there (Uzbekistan excepted) has actually declined, a most unusual phenomenon. Instances of decline in the proportion of city dwellers have been recorded in highly urbanized countries, but not in countries with low or medium urbanization akin to the levels recorded in these Soviet republics.

—Solomon Bruk

World's Largest Headcount Goes Forward in China

An army of 7 million census enumerators fanned out all over China July 1-10, as the world's most populous country conducted its fourth national census. China's 1990 population is estimated to be 1.120 billion.

This time around, the census came to the people. During previous censuses—most recently in 1982—the people had been required to go to the census (that is, report to local registration stations).

China specialists are looking forward to seeing what light the census results shed on two important demographic trends during the 1980s. One is the number of "illegal" children born in disregard of the policy of one child per family. The other is the extent of illegal migration to the cities (thought to be in the millions) that has followed economic restructuring.

Because of possible legal problems, some citizens may be reluctant to answer the questions relating to these issues. Census officials have promised that results will be confidential and will not be used to prosecute citizens whose status is less than optimal.

As was the case in 1982, tabulation of the data in the world's most populous country is expected to proceed rapidly. Initial results will be published in October 1990, only three months after the tally took place, and are to include figures for the total population, the number of households, number of permanent residents, vital statistics, ethnic group breakdown, and education.

A 10-percent tabulation will be available by the end of May 1991, and complete figures will be published in June 1992.

—A.H.

SURVEY REPORT

El Salvador

El Salvador is the smallest and most densely populated country in Central America. Land distribution is a major concern of the country's mostly agrarian population of 5.3 million and issues of redistribution have contributed to the civil war of the past decade.

Despite security problems related to the civil unrest, four surveys have been completed since 1975 that document trends in the fertility and contraceptive behavior of the population. The most recent, the 1988 Family Health Survey (FESAL88), is the second survey to include information on maternal and child health. Conducted by the Asociación Demográfica Salvadoreña with technical assistance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Division of Reproductive Health, FESAL88 interviewed a total of 3,579 women age 15-44 between May and July 1988.

Although total fertility declined from an average of 6.3 to 4.5 lifetime births per woman between 1978 and 1985, the survey found no significant change between 1985 and 1988. Contraceptive use shows a similar pattern, increasing by 26 percentage points between 1975 and 1988 with virtually all of the increase occurring before 1985. Some 47 percent of married women are using modern methods of family planning (traditional methods were not included). Female sterilization is by far the most commonly used method—about one-third of married women have been sterilized. Temporary methods of family planning are used by about 17 percent of married women.

Other determinants of fertility, such as age at first marriage and breastfeeding practices, also showed little change between 1985 and 1988. The average age of marriage rose slightly between 1985 and 1988, from 19.8 to 20.3 years, with almost all of the increase taking place in the urban areas. Rural women tend to marry about two years earlier than urban women. Ninety-five percent of women interviewed breastfed their last child, and the average duration of breastfeeding was 17 months, one month longer than the period reported in 1985.

World Bank

Most Salvadoran children are immunized.

According to the survey, 18 percent of all women are estimated to be in need of family planning because they are fecund and not using contraception but do not want to become pregnant soon or at all. Among women who say they want no more children, 63 percent give economic problems as the reason. Another 27 percent say they have reached the number of children they desire. About half the women not currently using family planning say they intend to use a method in the future; however, only half of these women say they know where to obtain a method.

FESAL88 contained a special module to gather information on the fertility behavior of women age 15-24 years. The fertility rate for women age 15-19 was found to be 139 births per 1,000 women, the highest rate found for any country in Latin America or the Caribbean. Twenty-three percent of women age 15-24 reported that their first sexual experience was premarital, and an estimated 12 percent of ever-in-union women age 15-24 had a premarital conception. Yet 70 percent of those whose first sexual experience was premarital said they did not sanction premarital sex. Nine in 10 women age 15-24 said they think there should be special family planning services available for young adults.

About two-thirds of the married women who had a birth in the five years prior to the survey received a prenatal examination and a similar proportion received an anti-tetanus toxoid injection. Most of these women were served by the Ministry of Health. About half the women with a recent birth delivered in a medical facility, while 38 percent gave birth at home with the assistance of a midwife.

Although only 40 percent of married women with recent births reported receiving postnatal care, 76 percent of infants received well-baby care. About 60 percent of children under age five have been immunized against polio or DPT (diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus), while about 80 percent are reportedly protected against measles or tuberculosis. One-third of the children under age 5 had had diarrhea in the two weeks prior to the survey, and 87 percent received some treatment. Only 13 percent of those treated received oral rehydration solutions, while 81 percent were treated with pharmaceutical products—most likely a costly and ineffective treatment.

–B.C.S.

DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

China's Population Planning After Tiananmen

by H. Yuan Tien

"Our nation's population control effort was out of whack during the 7th Five-Year Plan [1985-1989]," Ma Bin told the Fifth National Conference of the China Demographic Society in Beijing in January 1990.[1]

The conference had been called to address the "course of China's population growth and countermeasures." At age 75, Ma serves as an adviser to the Development Research Center of the State Council. He has long followed a hard line on Chinese population planning issues.[2] His acerbic words expressed his annoyance at the upturn in China's fertility after 1985.

The Demographic Society's leadership agreed to hold the conference a little over two months after the tragic events in Tiananmen Square in June 1989. The Society last met in 1985. The intervening years had seen a rise in the national birth rate from 18 births per 1,000 population annually to 22 or 23. Similarly, the total fertility rate rose from an average 2.2 lifetime children per woman to 2.6.

By official estimates, China's population topped 1.1 billion at the end of April 1989. This may be an underestimation because of many additional, unreported births. These increases kindled doubt about the feasibility of the national goal, outlined in 1984, of holding the total population to "around 1.2 billion" in 2000. Chinese demographers and population planning officials alike came under pressure to sort out these developments. The 1990 conference itself was spawned out of heightened concern for the nation's demographic future.

The nation's recent nondemographic events stole the spotlight from the conference's demographic work. Fostering discord over China's population planning regulations in effect during the previous five or six years lay at the heart of the confrontation. In particular, the regulations' critics and supporters disagreed diametrically on the "one child per family" policy and the subsequent policy relaxation that allows nearly half of China's couples to have a second child.

The confrontation occurred in the shadow of the dismissal of party Chairman Zhao Ziyang and the ascendancy of political hard-liners after the Tiananmen events. Past and present heads of China's National Family Planning Commission were among the protagonists on opposing sides of a most spirited exchange on China's population planning effort.

> "A degree of flexibility can be permitted," Zhao wrote. "It is of no major consequence"

Background

The one-child policy had been in effect for about three years when Chen Muhua, the first head of the National Family Planning Commission, was appointed to a higher post. Her successor, Qian Xinzhong, pursued the goal of minimal fertility with greater vigor during his 1982-1983 tenure, including an all-out push to increase sterilizations.

At the conference, these two former family planning chiefs reiterated their belief that energetic measures are required to promote population planning in general and to induce a transition to minimal fertility in particular. Dr. Qian also averred that successful fertility reduction is unrelated to socioeconomic development and that China's low level of socioeconomic development should be no excuse for slackening resolute effort to implement population planning.

This renewal of hard-line advocacy was the latest in a train of events triggered by the inauguration of the one-child policy in 1979. Misgivings and resistance accompanied this policy from the start and were widespread among couples and population planning personnel in the countryside. Population planning controversies arising from a backlash from those affected truncated Dr. Qian's tenure in office.

Wang Wei, his successor, sought ways to attenuate the considerable dissatisfaction. The policy of "opening small holes" (i.e., making exceptions to the one-child limit depending on local conditions) was authorized in 1984. Exemptions allowing couples to have a second child multiplied thereafter, in response to massive demand for more than one child, especially from the poorer agricultural areas. Starting in 1986, a second chance was soon allocated to up to 20 percent of couples with one female child. This guideline and the earlier policy shift drew public warnings from population planning hard-liners.[3]

Peng Peiyun, the current head of the Commission, replaced Wang in 1988. She assembled China's leading demographers into a National Committee of Consultants on Family Planning. They included numerous proponents and supporters of the less stringent measures initiated by Wang. Peng further extended the scope of exemptions. As many as 48 percent of rural couples are officially allowed to have another child after an appropriate interval should their first child be a girl. In reality, the great majority of peasants have borne two children or more.[4]

The one-child policy thus was relegated to limbo. Against this backdrop the hard-liners sought to reassert them-

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selves. The sound of population politics loudly filled the 1990 Conference.

Hardball Politics

Adopting the same stance as Ma's at the meeting, though in separate papers, were a few other specialists in demography and related fields. They belonged to, or had been in touch with, a study group organized and headed by Ma since 1986. One aim of the group was to orchestrate countermeasures against the widening erosion of the one-child policy. The hard-liners voiced similar assessments of why the Chinese fertility rose after 1985 and who was responsible for it.

In their view, the upturn stemmed from "the practice of 'opening small holes' and the notion of 'holding the population to *around* 1.2 billion.'" Specifically, Ma and his fellow hard-liners charged that:

1. China's fertility upturn dated from 1984, when "two young cadres with the support of certain leading members of the National Family Planning Commission recommended the acceptance of the 'around 1.2 billion' notion." Chairman Zhao Ziyang immediately endorsed it in July. Because the word "around" is utterly nonspecific, they charged, it generated such figures as 1.25 billion, 1.27-1.28 billion, and the like in official pronouncements, giving rise to confusion.

More important, this change in wording transgressed against the bedrock target of "keeping the population total *within* 1.2 billion" set and reaffirmed by the Party Congress and the Central Committee and the National People's Congress between 1978 and 1984. This transgression was compounded by the "irresponsible and frivolous" notations that Zhao inscribed on the memo submitted by the two young staff members. "A degree of flexibility can be permitted in the population target for the century's end," Zhao wrote. "It is of no major consequence."

2. "We estimate that some 33 million babies were born outside population plans during the 7th Five-Year Plan," the hard-liners charged. These unauthorized births occurred as a result of "opening small holes" while leaving "big holes" unplugged, and came after Zhao sanctioned the "two births with spacing" experiment in selected rural districts, outlined by the two young staff members in 1984.

This approval contradicted the guidelines stressed by the party and government that "couples in the villages are generally encouraged to have only one child; only in case of real hardship, the request of some couples to have a second child may, after investigation, be allowed according to plan." On no occasion did the government ever limit the one-child policy to the cities, exempting the villages.

> Hard-liners have decried the de facto demise of the one-child policy

This bewildering state of affairs continues today, the hard-liners charged. At the July 1989 meeting of the National Committee of Consultants on Family Planning, Peng insisted that there seemed to be no need to promote the "one-child" ideal in the villages. At a party conference that October, she went on to disclose that to avoid the appearance of gender discrimination, current practice has been to allow couples with a single infant girl to have a second child by listing them as "cases of real hardship."

3. The goals of "keeping the population total within 1.2 billion" and implementing the one-child policy were hastily jettisoned only some five years after adoption. Their dislodgement started with the so-called "moderate and gradual changes" introduced by Wang in 1984, in reaction to "unreasonable foreign criticisms based on 'humanitarianism and human rights'" and "banners of 'democracy' held up by a few persons in China." Wang, supported by Zhao, declared that "'opening small holes' is a continuous process; do not cap it. Our thinking should never be fixed on one thing, nor should we cap our thinking."

China's population planning strategy and tactics consequently have become a charade. The "instabilities in policy aims and the many changes in policy measures" perplexed the masses. They befuddled the sense of urgency among population planning cadres everywhere. Chaos spread, morale declined, organization unraveled, and implementation waned. These instabilities brought on the rise in the birth rate after 1985.

"The long-term well-being of the whole Chinese people," stated hard-liner Yu Jinyuan, "thus is being sacrificed merely to satisfy the momentary interests of a certain portion of peasants at present."[5]

Hard-Line Measures

Thirty specific recommendations were drawn up by Ma's study group in February, but modified after June 1989. They urged enactment of laws governing population planning, marriage, and "eugenic protection" (i.e., child health, prenatal care, etc.). Their recommendations, intended to roll back the liberalization of population planning regulations, call for:

1. A nationwide head tax.
2. Special "social nurture" levies on parents with children born outside national population plans.
3. Heavy taxes on those with excessive births; tax exemption for parents with only one child.
4. An end to supplementary land allotments and grain ration to peasant households with excessive births.
5. A second "open letter" to underscore population planning. (The first

Continued on next page

Demographer's Page

Continued from previous page

"open letter," issued in 1980 to all members of the Communist Party and Youth League, exhorted them to set examples for others to emulate and stressed the "promotion of the 'one-child' ideal in order that our nation's total population be kept within 1.2 billion in the year 2000.")

Outlook

The controversy over population planning in China has thus spun into the area of politics. Hard-liners have decried the de facto demise of the one-child policy and the desecration of the "within 1.2 billion" target and identified their nemeses. The clash has been turned almost exclusively into an argument over transgressions against various policy guidelines established in 1978-1980.

The debate has made little mention of the circumstances surrounding the "low" fertility in 1981-1984 just before the upturn, or the backlash against the government's one-child campaign from peasants in the country's poor areas. Nor has much consideration been given to the country's falling median age, the drop in age at first marriage, and the demographic impact of agricultural decollectivization and economic deregulation.

The dynamics of post-Tiananmen politics would seem to offer critics of the more permissive population measures an advantage in advancing their agenda. The complex issues involved in the rise in fertility after 1985 do not seem to have been given the attention they deserve. What then is the outlook for China's population planning effort?

In their drive to maintain the political status quo, the party and government have invoked strong restraints in the name of stability since June 1989. This phraseology permeates the sayings of high officials concerned with suppressing an allegedly small number of "counterrevolutionaries."

At the close of the conference, Peng stressed stability—the need to stabilize current population planning regulations.[6] The Report on Government Work received by the National People's Congress in April 1990 reflected her position: "The third reproductive peak since the establishment of our nation will hit us during the early years of the 1990s. We must resolutely stabilize the current population planning measures, and ensure their implementation at the grassroots level."[7]

Parenthetically, the one-child policy and the "within 1.2 billion" target originated from within the council of a small number of high party functionaries. The subsequent relaxation and revision of these policies, on the other hand, mirrored the input from the numerous family planning personnel at the grass-roots level and specialists in institutions of higher learning and research institutes throughout China. They represented an accommodation with rural reality and the dynamics of China's population politics.

Numerous conference participants spoke out, addressing the issue from a range of perspectives: The 1979 leap to the stringent one-child policy was, one writer argued, an abrupt step based on the simplistic views that population numbers are the cause of all the nation's economic difficulties and that population growth could be stopped overnight by fiat.[8] The changes since 1984, another participant stressed, represented not regressions in population planning regulations but improvements. Unless the critics intend to totally repudiate country and party, they should not adopt a negative attitude toward the changes simply because Zhao Ziyang was the premier involved in national affairs of all sorts, including population planning at the time.[9]

Stability, the hard-liner's byword, also studded the titles and texts of a dozen other conference papers defending the less stringent post-1984 policy.[10] The picture of China's population politics today is of a majority holding fast against the policy rollback sought by a small minority of hard-liners. The sword of "stability" evidently cuts both ways.

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8. Wang Weizhi. "Stabilizing Policy, Regulating Population, and Accelerating Population Modernization." Paper read at the Fifth National Conference.
9. Liang Zhongtong. "New Reproductive Peaks: A Turning Point in China's Reform and Development." Paper read at the Fifth National Conference.
10. These include, among numerous others, Wu Zhongguan. "Report on the Investigation of Sichuan Province's Third Fertility Peak and Countermeasures"; Tian Xueyuan. "The Third Wave of Population Increase and Countermeasures in Macro-perspective"; Yao Minghua. "From Improvement to Stability: Changes in China's Population Planning Policy during the 1980s"; and Zhai Chenwu. "Population and Developmental Policies: Reflections." Papers read at the Fifth National Conference.

An Invitation to PRB's Awards Dinner

The Board of Trustees and the Staff of the Population Reference Bureau, Inc., cordially invite you to celebrate PRB's 61st anniversary at the 1990 Annual Awards Dinner recognizing outstanding contributions in the field of demography.

The dinner speaker will be W. Parker Mauldin, Program Associate, the Rockefeller Foundation.

Date: Thursday, November 1, 1990
Time: Cocktails (cash bar) 6:30 pm
Dinner and Awards Ceremony 7:15 pm
Place: National Press Club
Washington, D.C.

Awards Dinner tickets are $40 each. Send check to Population Reference Bureau, Attn.: Colette Thomas, 777 14th St. N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005. Checks payable to PRB.

George Simmons (1940-1990)

George B. Simmons, who specialized in population planning and international health at the University of Michigan, died July 15. He was 50.

Simmons was chairman and professor of the Department of Population Planning and International Health. His research focused on factors that determine the success of family planning programs in less developed countries.

He graduated from Harvard University and received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

He joined the University of Michigan in 1969 and from 1978 to 1981 directed the University's Program in Population Planning. He was a member of the Population-Environment Dynamics Project. From 1983 on, he chaired the National Academy of Sciences' working group on family planning effectiveness.

He was also a consultant to many agencies, including the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh; the National Institutes of Health; and the Population Council.

–A.H.

Louis Hellman (1908-1990)

Louis M. Hellman, former PRB trustee and medical director, died July 22 in Washington, D.C. He was 82.

Born in St. Louis, Hellman graduated from Yale University and Johns Hopkins University medical school. After a distinguished career in obstetrics, during which he co-authored several standard texts, he served from 1970 to 1977 as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. In 1974 he traveled to Bucharest, Romania, as part of the U.S. delegation at the World Population Conference.

From 1975 to 1977 he was a member of PRB's Board of Trustees; from 1977 to 1979 he was the Bureau's Director of Medical Information.

–A.H.

SOFTWARE

NSFA is an inexpensive fertility model package based on *Lotus 1-2-3*. The program is designed to be a teaching tool in demographic methods.

NSFA stands for New Shapes for Fertility Analysis. It consists of both templates and supplementary programs and includes an animated self-instruction module that explains the dynamics of two fertility models, as well as supplementary programs for fitting models to actual data, producing new age-specific fertility rate series from models, projecting fertility, and evaluating data.

NSFA comes with routines using the Brass relational model, the Coale-Trussell fertility model, Sivamurthy's principal component model, rational splines interpolation, and period-cohort decomposition. Two sample worksheets with data on 58 countries and an instruction manual are included.

NSFA requires an IBM PC or compatible and *Lotus 1-2-3* version 2.0 or higher. Monitor and graphics card should be specified when ordering. Contact: Garcia-Bogue Research & Development, Ltd., P.O. Box 37-7710, Chicago, Ill. 60637. Phone 312-947-2014. Fax 312-947-2012. Price for one computer/user: $14.95 plus $4.55 postage and handling in the U.S. (Ill. residents add 8 percent tax). Foreign mailing rates on request.

–A.H.

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of May 1, 1990	250,893,000
As of May 1, 1989	248,312,000

The above estimates, the latest available, include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1061.

Estimated World Population:

As of September 1990	5,337,000,000
Annual growth	93,000,000

Extrapolation from the mid-1990 population on PRB's *1990 World Population Data Sheet*.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: March 1990

	12 months ending with March					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1990	1989	1990	1989	1988	1987
Live births	4,070,000	3,923,000	16.3	15.9	15.7	15.5
Deaths	2,167,000	2,152,000	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.6
Natural increase	1,903,000	1,771,000	7.6	7.2	6.8	6.9
Marriages	2,423,000	2,375,000	9.7	9.6	9.8	10.0
Divorces	1,177,000	1,192,000	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8
Infant deaths	38,900	38,400	9.6	9.8	10.1	10.3
Population base (in millions)	. . .	. . .	249.0	246.3	243.9	241.6

Note. Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births.
Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 39, No. 3) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

Reapportionment
Continued from page 3

personnel as residents of the last state where they had lived for at least six months. That method would have concentrated these personnel in a few states with large military bases. The new method, spurred by legislation pending in Congress, is expected to distribute this population more evenly around the country.

The table on page 3 shows who will win and who will lose if the U.S. records another "big" count in the same states as 1980. Several states may end up with more or fewer members of the House than had been anticipated.

PRB's illustrative projections do not change the size of most state delegations. But seven states are affected by the new way of allocating overseas military, the adjustment for a potential error of closure, or both:

- New York previously had been expected to lose 3 seats. Under PRB's new projections, it could lose 4.
- Connecticut, previously expected to stand pat, could lose 1 seat.
- Minnesota, previously expected to stand pat, could lose 1 seat.
- Wisconsin, previously expected to stand pat, could lose 1 seat.
- Georgia, previously expected to gain 1 seat, could gain 2.
- Arizona, previously expected to gain 1 seat, could gain 2.
- Florida, previously expected to gain 3 seats, could gain 5.

In summary, four states in the Northeast and Midwest are likely to lose a seat compared to earlier forecasts. And three Sunbelt states are likely to gain more than expected.

The unusually large error of closure in 1980 was probably due to heavy illegal immigration during the 1970s, reduction in the undercount of minorities, and some overcounting due or partly due to dual home ownership.

Every census is different, and the factors above may end up influencing the final 1990 count to a lesser (or greater) degree than posited here. Similarly, the census results, to be released January 1, 1991, may hold surprises in as-yet unanticipated ways.

–B.O'H. and C.H.

TAKE A NUMBER

European potpourri: The new, 1989 edition of the Council of Europe's *Recent Demographic Developments in the Member States* contains some interesting insights into trends and attitudes relating to population growth in Europe.

Low fertility is generally viewed with some concern. The report notes that Finland's population is projected to sink below 5 million in 1999 so that "Finland will be a 5 million nation for 13 years only." Finland also reports that 78 percent of households live in "well-equipped dwellings" (running water, central or electrical heat, hot water, bathing facilities), and 22 percent do not.

In Belgium, about 88 percent of 1978 marriages were still intact after 10 years–a high percentage, but the 1960 cohort's record was much better, about 96 percent. Immigration to the United Kingdom has dropped sharply, down to a net influx of 2,000 in 1987 from 59,000 in 1985. In the Netherlands, concern over the low birth rate caused the Interministerial Committee on Population to call for a policy that allows both men and women to work while at the same time deterring measures that "adversely affect perceptions of the value of parenthood and the associated financial burden."

Sweden attributes its recent (1988) birth rate rise to closer birth spacing and points out that the rise is not assumed to continue in the latest series of population projections. (However, the crude birth rate *did* continue to rise through the end of 1989.) France states flatly that its family assistance programs follow a demographic policy to ensure the replacement of the population. Some worry is expressed over the below-replacement total fertility rate (TFR) of 1.8 average lifetime births per woman, but this rate, the report notes with some satisfaction, is only a little below the two-child family.

In Belgium, considerable attention is being paid to the federalization of the state into more autonomous Walloon and Flemish areas and to the emancipation of women. Regarding abortion, which is generally prohibited by law, consideration is being given to replace present criminal penalties with more positive policy measures, presumably to put some upward pressure on the very low Belgian birth rate (a TFR of 1.5).

–C.H.

ADDENDA

Signs of the Aging of America–Part IX

You know the U.S. population is getting a little long in the tooth when magazines hit the stands that glory in running *old* news (isn't that a contradiction in terms?) from Your Day–and furthermore, you read them. The neo *Saturday Evening Post*, for example, and *Memories* magazine (shown at right).

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005

THE POPULATION EXPLOSION, by Paul and Anne Ehrlich. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1990. 320 pages. $18.45 hardback. ISBN 0-671-68984-3.

"Why Isn't Everyone as Scared as We Are?" If the reader has any doubts about the Ehrlichs' position on rapid population growth, the title of the opening chapter will certainly dispel them. *The Population Explosion* is a sequel to the landmark publication in 1968 of Paul Ehrlich's *The Population Bomb*—the one that started it all.

This book continues the earlier warning on the dangers of excess, both in terms of too much consumption and too many people. As such, it fits easily into the sudden resurgence of interest in the environment in 1990 and, in fact, came out about the time of this year's Earth Day remembrance.

But there is a difference this time, say the Ehrlichs. The bomb of the 1960s has "detonated" and (to switch metaphors) some of the bills are starting to come due. Recent declines in world grain production remind us that many of the world's people live on a precarious margin, they say; as growing populations spread into rain forests, some of the concerns of the 1960s become the realities of the 1990s.

The Ehrlichs are very clear on their point of view. While many readers may not agree with all of their assessments—is the birth of an American baby really a disaster "hundreds" of times worse than a birth in a developing country?—but there is much thought-provoking material in this book. Not all of the arguments are negative. More rational policies could easily improve the world food outlook, the authors point out.

The Ehrlichs conclude with a section on "What You Can Do," suggesting such activities as writing to legislators or becoming actively involved in politics oneself. Whether one accepts the Ehrlichs' arguments or not, *The Population Explosion* sets a tone that is more and more likely to reflect the present and future mood in the public arena.

—Carl Haub

UNDERSTANDING THE GENDER GAP: An Economic History of American Women, by Claudia Goldin. New York and Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 1990. 287 pages. $29.95 hardback. ISBN 0-19-505077-0.

In the preface of this remarkably thorough history and analysis of U.S. women in the workplace, the author notes that many believe that the numbers and proportions of women working outside the home is unique to the present day. The percentage of women at work has just exceeded 60 percent, nearly 50 percent of all workers are women and more than 50 percent of women with newborns are back at work within one year. The range of occupations women now occupy is also impressive: The sign "Men at Work" seems jarringly out of date.

Yet from the middle of the 19th century, Claudia Goldin writes, each generation of women has experienced significant change in entering the labor place. At the turn of the century, young women moved from manufacturing to office jobs, a significant improvement at the time but ultimately a role that has confined and limited many women. Goldin explores not only these feminized occupational "assignments" but the wage gaps between men and women—clearly closing, but very slowly. What are the reasons that certain jobs seem reserved for women and that men are paid more, even in similar occupations? She provides a useful framework to understand the difference in pay and argues from the data that much—but not all—of the gap is due to wage discrimination.

—Elaine Murphy

BLACK AMERICANS: A Statistical Sourcebook 1990 Edition, edited by Alfred N. Garwood. Boulder, Colo.: Numbers & Concepts, 1990. 340 pages. $47.50 hardback; $39.95 paper. ISBN 0-929960-02-5; ISBN 0-929960-03-3.

This thick 5½ by 7½ inch reference book is a compilation of federal statistics on black Americans. Most of the statistics are available in other published sources, but it is helpful to have them in one place, from percentage of black babies born weighing under 2,500 grams to the number of Ph.D.s in mathematics conferred on blacks.

By and large the information is understandable and easy to locate, and the volume constitutes a useful collection of data for anyone interested in black America. Except for a short introduction, a statistical glossary, and a useful index, the book is—no more and no less—a compendium of 174 data tables, divided among eight chapters. The first chapter contains information on demographics and characteristics of the black population such as marital status, age and educational attainment. Chapter 2 has 38 tables on vital statistics and health measures.

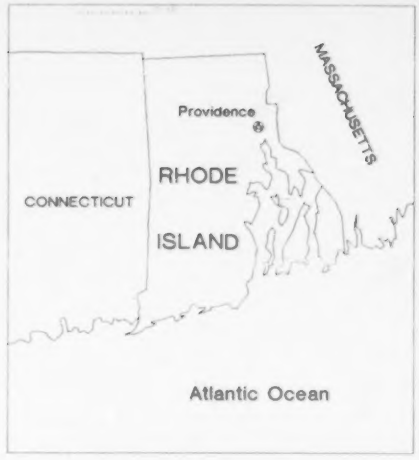
Other chapters present data on education, including figures on enrollment, teachers, attainment, and test scores; black elected officials and the black electorate; information on crime, law enforcement, and corrections; statistics on the labor force, employment and unemployment; earnings, income, poverty, and wealth; and four miscellaneous economic tables.

—William P. O'Hare

SPOTLIGHT

RHODE ISLAND

Population (1990 est.): 998,000
Population rank: 43rd in nation
Land area: 1,049 sq. miles
Population density (1989): 951 per sq. mile
Percent urban (1980): 87 percent
Births per 1,000 pop.: 14.2
Deaths per 1,000 pop.: 9.8
Rate of natural increase: 0.4 percent
Infant mortality rate: 8.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
GNP per capita (1987): $15,555
Capital: Providence



by Chester E. Smolski
and Leon Yacher

With the Atlantic bordering on the south and the 28-mile long Narragansett Bay splitting the state along a north-south axis, Rhode Island is nicknamed the "Ocean State." Its early settlement in 1636 and important sea trade thereafter made Newport and Providence the seventh and eighth largest cities in the country as of the 1790 Census. The cities are no longer so nationally preeminent, but the state remains heavily populated and ranks behind New Jersey as the second most densely settled state in the nation.

The 410-mile shoreline consists of sandy beaches, rocky outcroppings, marshes, and developed features such as marinas, boatyards, and seafood-processing plants. The beaches and historic maritime ambience contribute to the state's economically important tourist trade.

Open land and woodland constitute 52 percent of the state, and the potential for agriculture would seem promising. Yet out of a labor force of 470,000, only 850 persons are engaged in producing crops and livestock. Approximately equal numbers work in manufacturing and service industries, as the manufacturing-to-service shift experienced in other states has had its effect even in this hardcore industrial state (where costume jewelry and silverware, among other products, have long been manufactured). The ocean-based tourist trade is considered the state's third largest "industry."

Rhode Island's low population growth rates in recent decades stem from a low birth rate and a higher death rate than the national averages of 15.7 and 8.7, as of 1987. This is partly the result of an older population. The median age of 33.4 years in 1987 made Rhode Island the sixth-oldest state, and second-most senior state (tied with Pennsylvania) with 14.6 percent of the population 65 years and older. Florida, with 17.7 percent, is first in this category.

From 1970 to 1980, Rhode Island was one of two states (New York being the other) that actually lost population, a rare event in a country where booming state growth is considered standard. The shrinkage of Rhode Island's population by 3,000 over the decade is attributable to a federal decision to remove naval facilities from Newport, R.I., to Norfolk, Va. It has been estimated that if the transfer had not occurred, the state would have grown by 4 percent during that 1970s—an example of the power of big policy decisions on small areas.

Population growth achieved levels near the national average during the 1980s. A median house price of $49,500 in 1980 (lower than the national average) served to attract new residents from surrounding states in the early part of the decade, but increased demand pushed the median to $128,000 in 1989. The Providence metro area in the mid-1980s experienced mushrooming growth in housing prices, and today is the 12th most expensive house market in the nation.

Some 87 percent of Rhode Islanders live in a metro area. Rhode Island's five counties, much like the other counties of New England, provide no governmental function except for the courts. Local government and public land are instead divided among the 39 cities and towns. The capital, Providence, is the largest city, with 16 percent of the state's population. The Providence metro area (which includes parts of Massachusetts) is the 34th largest in the nation, with 1.1 million residents.

Local population estimates for cities and towns suggest that five of the eight cities and one of the 31 towns have lost population, but population loss in Providence is denied by city officials because of an influx of Asian and Hispanic immigrants during the 1980s. The Census Bureau projects that Rhode Island will reach 1 million in population in 1990.

Chester E. Smolski is Professor of Geography and Director of Urban Studies, Rhode Island College; Leon Yacher is Associate Professor of Geography, Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven.